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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

CONTENTS

		Page
I.	INTRODUCTION	3
II.	REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS	3
	Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic	3
	Ecuador	6
	Honduras	8
	Jamaica	8
	Mexico	9
	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	10
	United Arab Emirates	12
III.	REPLIES RECEIVED FROM UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	12
	International Court of Justice	12

CONTENTS (continued)

	Page
International Labour Organisation	13
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	13
United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute	15
World Health Organization	15
World Intellectual Property Organization	20

I. INTRODUCTION

1. In paragraph 5 of its resolution 43/22 of 11 November 1988, entitled "Right of peoples to peace", the General Assembly called upon all States and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, as well as non-governmental organizations, to inform the Secretary-General about the measures taken to implement the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace (Assembly resolution 39/11, annex). In paragraph 6 of the resolution the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to it at its forty-fifth session on the basis of replies received.

2. Pursuant to that request, the Secretary-General addressed a note verbale to the Governments of Member States, on 27 April 1990, inviting them to submit their views in accordance with paragraph 5 of the resolution. The Under-Secretary-General for Political and Security Council Affairs addressed a letter, on 27 April 1990, to the relevant organizations of the United Nations system on the same subject. To facilitate the response from the non-governmental organizations to the resolution the Institutional Relations and NGO Section of the Department of Public Information at its regular briefings informed the representatives of the non-governmental organizations about the resolution and invited them to submit their replies. The Liaison Officer for Non-Governmental Organizations in Geneva and Chief of Protocol and NGO Liaison in Vienna were asked to take similar steps.

3. As at 10 October 1990, replies had been received from the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United Arab Emirates. Substantive replies had been also submitted by the following international organizations of the United Nations system: International Court of Justice, International Labour Organisation, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, World Health Organization and World Intellectual Property Organization. The International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations, a non-governmental organization, informed the Secretariat that it was planning to publish the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace in its bulletin. Any further replies will be issued as addenda to the present report.

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

[Original: Russian]

[31 August 1990]

1. The Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic reaffirms its adherence to the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, adopted at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly, and regards it as a significant international instrument that should contribute to the strengthening of international peace and security.

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2. During the period since the previous reply of the Byelorussian SSR (see A/43/602), the positive trends in the world have become stronger, and military, political and ideological confrontation has been still further reduced. The process of political dialogue for the peaceful settlement of all disputed questions, which has become part of the normal course of procedure, is one of the main guarantees of the sacred right of peoples to peace proclaimed in the Declaration. The practical results of constructive international co-operation, in the first place, the agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States of America, in particular the conclusion of the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate Range and Short-Range Missiles, which represented the first step on the road towards genuine nuclear disarmament, serve the cause of ensuring this right. Indeed, in Byelorussia the last launcher for shorter-range missiles was dismantled on 27 October 1989 and thus one part of the Soviet-United States Treaty has been fully implemented.

3. The Byelorussian SSR supports the forward movement of the USSR and the United States of America towards the elimination of the danger of war and believes that agreement on the basic provisions of a future treaty on a 50 per cent reduction in strategic offensive weapons, the signing of an agreement on an 80 per cent reduction in chemical weapons, and progress towards a complete ban on nuclear-weapon tests are extremely important to the realization of the right of peoples to peace.

4. The Byelorussian SSR, as a European State, regards the processes currently taking place on that continent as a significant contribution towards ensuring the condition for the realization of the right of peoples to peace. A whole range of questions being decided within the framework of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe relates to the most important aspects of the maintenance of international peace and security, including arms control measures, the reduction of conventional weapons, the expansion of confidence-building measures, the adjustment of economic co-operation, collaboration in environmental protection, and the ensuring of human rights. The Helsinki process, on the basis of the Stockholm and Vienna agreements, is serving the purpose of strengthening and developing international co-operation in the cause of peace and for the good of all mankind. Byelorussia strictly complies with the European agreements that have been achieved, as is demonstrated by the international inspections carried out in its territory and the presence of foreign observers at military exercises, as provided for in the Stockholm document on confidence-building measures.

5. The Byelorussian SSR considers that the obvious progress made in co-operation between the Warsaw Pact Organization and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and their declared aim of strengthening the political component of the activities of the two organizations represents an important contribution to the implementation of the provision of the Declaration calling for the policies of States to be directed towards the elimination of the threat of war and the settlement of disputes by peaceful means. The changing realities in Europe are creating extremely favourable conditions for the speedy completion of talks on the reduction of conventional weapons and on confidence- and security-building measures. The relaxation of the most tense military confrontation, the confrontation between the two blocs on the European continent, is exerting an important influence on the affirmation of the

primacy of universal human values, including, it goes without saying, the right of peoples to peace.

6. The United Nations is called upon to play an important role in securing genuine guarantees of the right of peoples to peace by intensifying international efforts towards disarmament, the resolution of regional conflicts, the strengthening of international security and the promotion of economic development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedom. In this connection, mention must be made of the intensification of the activities of the Organization and its Secretary-General, in particular his efforts as a mediator in the search for solutions to the most dangerously explosive conflicts.

7. For its part, the Byelorussian SSR is contributing to the development of positive processes in the work of the United Nations. In particular, at the most recent session of the General Assembly, Byelorussia promoted the adoption and was a sponsor of a number of very important resolutions in the field of disarmament, relating to the prevention of war, the strengthening of security assurances to non-nuclear-weapon States, and the prevention of an arms race in outer space. Moreover, the Byelorussian SSR unfailingly supports resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly on such important problems as confidence-building measures, the Convention on the prohibition of the most inhuman types of conventional weapons, and co-operation in the use of scientific and technological advances to promote international security, and it is one of the initiators of resolutions on questions relating to weapons of mass destruction.

8. The Byelorussian SSR considers the widest possible active participation by the general public in pro-peace activities to be extremely important. Accordingly, the development of anti-war movements is encouraged in the Byelorussian SSR and support is given to the efforts of the general public directed towards the maintenance and strengthening of peace. Byelorussia contributes to the financing of United Nations peace-keeping operations, to the World Disarmament Campaign, and to the implementation of measures on problems relating to disarmament and the strengthening of international security.

9. The general public in the Byelorussian SSR makes its contribution towards eliminating the threat of war and ensuring the peaceful development of all peoples by participating in the activities of non-governmental organizations that have made it their goal to strengthen peace and security. The Byelorussian Committee for the Defence of Peace has firm authority thanks to its active work, including the organization of pro-peace activities in Byelorussia and the development of links with peace organizations, groups and funds in other countries. The Byelorussian section of the Soviet Peace Fund, the Byelorussian Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with other countries and the United Nations Association of the Byelorussian SSR also work towards that goal.

10. A substantial new development in the life of the Byelorussian people was the adoption on 27 July 1990 by the Supreme Soviet of the Byelorussian SSR - the highest organ of authority in the Republic - of the Declaration on State Sovereignty. According to this Declaration, Byelorussia intends to make its territory a nuclear-free zone and to make the republic a neutral State. The Declaration reaffirms respect for the sovereign rights of all peoples of the world.

11. The Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace is an important topical document which affirms the priority of peaceful development, and it has built on and developed the basic documents drawn up by the international community with the aim of ensuring a life of security and dignity and progress for all peoples, for every human being. The Byelorussian SSR therefore constantly strives to eliminate threats of any nature - political, military, economic or humanitarian. Byelorussia remains committed to its position, in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the rules of international law, and is prepared to continue to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace.

ECUADOR

[Original: Spanish]

[17 September 1990]

1. With regard to the constitutional framework of Ecuador, it is fitting here to reproduce articles 3 and 4 of the current Constitution of Ecuador, which reads as follows:

> "Article 3. The Ecuadorian State proclaims peace and co-operation as a system of international coexistence and juridical equality of States; it condemns the use or threat of force as a means of settling conflicts and repudiates seizure by war as a source of right. It supports the settlement of international disputes by juridical and peaceful means and declares that international law shall govern the conduct of States in their mutual relations. It is also in favour of the international community and the stability and strengthening of its organizations, and, as part of this process, of Ibero-American integration as an effective system for achieving the development of the community of peoples united by ties of solidarity arising out of the identity of their origin and culture.
>
> "Ecuador may form associations with one or more other States for the promotion and defence of national and common interests.
>
> "Article 4. The Ecuadorian State condemns all forms of colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination or segregation. It recognizes the right of peoples to free themselves from these oppressive systems."

2. Ecuador is a signatory to all the international instruments aimed at promoting the right of peoples to peace. It has placed on record its constant readiness to protect that right on the basis of such principles as the condemnation of wars of aggression, the obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force in its relations with other States, the commitment to peaceful means of settling disputes, and the banning of the arms race.

3. The views of the present Government have been on record since the inauguration of President Borja in August 1988, at which time he declared that he proposed to

take up the task of helping to form an international conscience against the arms race. He also appealed for serious reflection on the fundamental theme of peace, stating that the time had come for a collective declaration of peace in the region and the giving of a firm and faithful undertaking to cultivate good-neighbourliness and promote co-operation among our countries.

4. The President made similar announcements on international occasions, as for example at the summit conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in Belgrade in 1989, when he stressed the need to overcome the world's bipolar structure and use the resources now being spent on arms to eradicate poverty in the countries of the third world. In his view, the role of the non-aligned countries in that new conception of world power would be to defend the interests of peace and peaceful coexistence, genuine self-determination of peoples and the permanent subjection of disputes between States to peaceful settlement.

5. The broad outlines of national policy on this matter were reiterated by the Republic's Minister for Foreign Affairs. Thus, at the forty-third session of the General Assembly, he said that Ecuador's foreign endeavours would be directed towards the search for peace, security and development, without which international co-operation and justice were impossible. He also said on that occasion that the country believed that peace must be defended wherever it might be threatened.

6. At the forty-fourth session of the General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ecuador welcomed the positive signs of détente and supported disarmament. He said that the steps taken offered a prospect of closer understanding that should lead to greater solidarity between nations as an instrument for establishing a fairer international order.

7. These statements by the highest authorities of the Government have not been mere rhetoric. In practice, Ecuador has provided special support for the formulation and subsequent adoption of the Galápagos Declaration, in which the Presidents of the five Andean countries declared their resolve to seek a climate of solidarity, friendship and trust in order to strengthen peace and security on a firm basis of understanding. They reiterated their commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes and undertook to develop confidence-building measures in order to avoid and resolve frontier incidents while at the same time asserting their intention of eliminating the obstacles that stood in the way of good relations between their countries and the steady progress of integration.

8. Lastly, Ecuador has been working very successfully in the Commission on Neighbourly Relations, set up together with Colombia, to find practical solutions as expeditiously as possible for all matters that could in future affect the harmony between the two countries, and also to speed the implementation of activities and undertakings aimed at integrating the two nations. Talks have been held and negotiations entered into with the Government of Peru with a view to establishing very shortly a similar commission with similar aims.

HONDURAS

[Original: Spanish]

[7 September 1990]

1. Honduras, being firmly convinced of the need for mankind to proceed without delay in the task of peacemaking, warmly welcomes any action to unite new efforts in search of a gradually viable, effective and universally applicable peacemaking process. Coexistence is conceivable only in a context of peace.

2. The present-day interdependence of the international community has brought to the surface, as the resolution emphasized, a growing demand among the peoples for support and co-operation on the part of States, international bodies and non-governmental organizations. Peace will only come about through the combined and co-ordinated efforts of all elements of the international community.

3. Conscious of the national efforts that would be called for by implementation of General Assembly resolution 43/22, Honduras regrets that its difficult economic situation prevents it from taking any action that would exhaust its scanty resources.

4. Lastly, Honduras expresses its appreciation of the valuable work done by the United Nations, which, as an instrument for consolidating universal peace, has called on the non-governmental organizations to help secure the peace of the world.

JAMAICA

[Original: English]

[14 August 1990]

1. The Government of Jamaica has not adopted any special measures to implement the Declaration of the Rights of Peoples to Peace. It was not deemed necessary to implement special measures as the goals of the Declaration have been an intrinsic part of government policy over the past three decades. Successive Jamaican Governments have upheld the view that all peoples have a right to peace.

2. As a member of the United Nations, Jamaica has supported the Charter's provisions relating to the attainment of peace and, in that regard, has repeatedly denounced the use of force and urged the peaceful settlement of disputes between States. Jamaica has also participated in United Nations peace-keeping operations. Most recently members of the constabulary force served with the United Nations Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG) in Namibia.

3. Jamaica has also recognized that to achieve peace concerted efforts need to be made to reduce poverty and to improve the quality of people's lives. The disparity between the levels of development in the countries of the North and South could be a cause of conflict. Over the years, Jamaica has worked with the Group of 77

within the United Nations system, the Non-Aligned Movement and other international organizations in the pursuit of peace through social and economic development.

4. During the International Year of Peace, 1986, Jamaica joined the international community in focusing attention on the promotion and maintenance of peace as well as the relationship between peace and development. At the national level, efforts were made to create greater awareness of the damage which violence, including politically motivated acts, had done to the society.

5. The Government of Jamaica will continue to pursue policies aimed at achieving national and international peace and security.

MEXICO

[Original: Spanish]

[20 September 1990]

1. In accordance with the principles governing its foreign policy, the Government of Mexico has expressed itself in favour of peace and disarmament in a number of multilateral forums. It has initiated various proposals for strengthening world peace and has supported others put before the international community to that end.

2. It recognizes that all the world's peoples are entitled to live in peace, within secure and recognized boundaries, and that all Governments have a duty to preserve and promote the enjoyment of that right.

3. The Government of Mexico has always supported the United Nations to the full in its task of maintaining international peace and security, in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter.

4. It believes that the United Nations is the proper forum in which to debate and negotiate problems that might imperil the survival of mankind. It has therefore proposed a number of draft resolutions in the General Assembly related to disarmament. One of the Government's most important initiatives in this respect has been its amendment to the Treaty Banning Nuclear-Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and Under Water, the aim of which is to transform this instrument into a treaty banning nuclear testing completely, thereby taking the most important step towards nuclear non-proliferation and eliminating the danger of a nuclear war, which would mean the annihilation of the human race.

5. Mexico has also played an active part in the peace process for Central America, and has rejoiced at the success of the international community's efforts to achieve the independence of Namibia and at its recent admission to membership in the United Nations.

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[Original: Russian]

[4 October 1990]

1. The Soviet Union regards the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace, adopted at the thirty-ninth session of the General Assembly on 12 November 1984, as an important and constructive document that promotes efforts to create a just and secure world and eliminate the nuclear threat. The six years following its adoption have been marked by major steps to humanize international relations and reaffirm the ideals of non-violence and demilitarization as the predominant elements in the development of a modern society. The world-wide consensus on the high priority of universal human values has greatly influenced the transition to a peaceful period of development in the history of humanity. The natural aspirations for peace and mutual understanding have proved greater than mutual enmity and mistrust.

2. Acting in the spirit of the Declaration, the Soviet Union has consistently taken practical steps to establish the right of peoples to peace on a solid material basis, on the basis of real achievements in the strengthening of universal security. That position found its expression in the message of the peoples of the world, adopted at the first Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR, in which the Soviet parliamentarians solemnly assured the peoples of the planet that they assumed responsibility for the Soviet State's strict observance of the principles of peaceful coexistence.

3. The experience of past years has shown that improved Soviet-American relations have fostered real positive changes in the international arena. At a turning point in history, the two great Powers have the opportunity to compare their policies openly and on a basis of trust and to seek approaches that respond to their mutual interests and are consonant with those of the world community. One of the most essential elements of these contacts is an awareness of each side's responsibility for the future of the planet and an adherence to the agreements concluded by the leaders of the two countries.

4. The fact that the Soviet Union and the United States no longer regard each other as military adversaries, as has been established in the course of the Soviet-United States summit meetings, is of paramount importance for the future development of international relations.

5. The new Soviet-United States co-operation is reflected in the radically new approaches of the two sides with regard to questions related to the safeguarding of universal security on the basis of a balance of interests and principles that reject ideology and humanize inter-State relations. In that context, the fundamental agreements between the USSR and the United States in the areas of nuclear disarmament and the reduction of other types of weapons of mass destruction and the progress made in limiting conventional weapons are in keeping with the spirit of the Declaration. All that sets the tone for world-wide progress towards mutual understanding and co-operation. Yet it must be noted that conflicts and

crisis situations in various parts of the world continue to pose a real threat and to represent an obstacle to the peoples' exercise of their right to live in peace. The Soviet Union has consistently spoken out in favour of peaceful solutions to such problems.

6. The dangerous developments in the Persian Gulf and the tendency to escalate further the military tensions in the region are particularly alarming. The unprovoked aggression by Iraq against sovereign Kuwait was a blatant attempt to jeopardize the progress made by the international community in transforming international relations in the wake of the transition to the new political thinking and introducing democratic standards into the life of various States. In essence, a terrorist act has been committed against the emerging new world order. In the present circumstances, collective action and full utilization of United Nations mechanisms, above all the Security Council, play an important role. Together with the whole international community, the Soviet Union is prepared to work to prevent the crisis situation in the Persian Gulf from developing into a major international conflict.

7. In the modern world, with its ever-growing interdependence, the settlement of many problems, particularly those concerning the strengthening of peace, requires the active participation of all concerned. Conditions are being established which are making it possible to overcome the bloc model of security in Europe. In the current situation, it is essential to waste no time in devising specific practical measures to build a common European home and create durable structures for security on the continent.

8. Public organizations play an important role in upholding the rights of peoples to peace. In recent years, their contribution towards the creation of political philosophy of peace has grown considerably. The representatives of Soviet public organizations have taken an active part in organizing many international meetings, in particular a conference of representatives of the USSR and the United States to discuss current questions of relations between the two countries (Pittsburgh), a meeting of Soviet and French representatives of public opinion ("Dialogue-89", Paris), a youth symposium ("Young people on the threshold of the twenty-first century", Moscow) and a number of other events.

9. The Helsinki Commission, created within the framework of the Soviet Society for Friendship with the peoples of other countries, has made a major contribution towards the realization of the ideas and principles of the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace.

10. One of the most important events of 1990 was the participation of representatives of Soviet public organizations in the work of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) (Copenhagen). The Moscow group "Doverie" ("Trust") and the organization "Memorial" have proposed the holding of a convention on European disarmament in Moscow in 1991. Such a forum, in which European parliamentarians, leaders of the anti-nuclear movement and youth and women's organizations could take part, would further promote the peace movement in various countries. The holding of a convention on European nuclear disarmament by the forces of "popular diplomacy" would significantly

highlight the responsibility of world public opinion in the struggle for peace and would be fully in keeping with the spirit of the Declaration.

11. Guided by the principles of the new political thinking, the Soviet Union intends to continue to do everything within its power to ensure that the provisions of the Declaration are fully reflected in practice.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

[Original: Arabic]

[13 June 1990]

The University of the United Arab Emirates, as the competent body of the State, is currently preparing in its various faculties a programme of lectures, seminars and discussions on scientific and technical progress and the maintenance of peace and security to be put into effect during the period 10 to 15 November 1990.

III. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM THE UNITED NATIONS BODIES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

[Original: English]

[16 May 1990]

1. The decisions of the International Court of Justice, in so far as they contribute to the resolution, avoidance or diminution of conflicts between States, evidently tend to the fulfilment of the Declaration. Measures taken by States and organizations to have or promote recourse to the Court, as an alternative to less peaceful means of dispute settlement, must surely be counted, therefore, among those relevant to the report which the Secretary-General has been requested to submit.

2. At the same time, the Court's task is confined to the treatment of disputes actually referred to it and rendering of opinions on legal questions put to it by duly authorized bodies. The Charter does not empower it to take initiatives outside the framework of that mission.

3. Among the organs of the United Nations, the Court is not, therefore, one of those which of their own accord could take measures for the implementation of the Declaration approved on 12 November 1984.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

[Original: English]

[7 June 1990]

1. The preamble of the Constitution of the ILO states that "universal and lasting peace can only be established if it is based on social justice". Since the foundation of the ILO in 1919 social justice has been the primary aim of its activities both in adopting international labour standards and safeguarding human rights and in its varied technical work, which now includes employment promotion, training, conditions of work, industrial relations and social security. Broadly speaking this is how the ILO contributes to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace.

2. Of particular relevance to the objectives of the Declaration are the ILO's continued efforts in the struggle against racism, racial discrimination and apartheid. In this connection you may wish to see the special reports of the Director-General on the application of the Declaration concerning action against apartheid in South Africa and Namibia submitted annually to the International Labour Conference (which are available at the ILO Liaison Office in New York). Also of particular relevance is the ILO's research into the economic and social consequences of disarmament. The results of this research have been made available to the United Nations Secretariat through the Department of Disarmament Affairs.

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[6 August 1990]

1. In compliance with paragraph 2 (b) (i) of 24 C/Res.13.1 inviting the Director-General to contribute "to the elucidation and better understanding of the concept of rights of peoples and the relationship between rights of peoples and human rights as they are defined in existing international instruments of universal scope", UNESCO organized an international meeting of experts on further study of the concept of the Rights of Peoples which was held at UNESCO, Paris, from 27 to 30 November 1989.

2. Fourteen specialists from different regions of the world participated in this meeting in their private capacity. A representative of the United Nations and a representative of the Organization of African Unity participated as well as 12 observers from various international non-governmental organizations and universities.

3. The experts examined a secretariat document describing the main lines of UNESCO activities concerned with peoples' rights. In addition, various documents were distributed among the participants, some of which expressed reservations or concern about the concept of peoples' rights and its implications for international human rights law.

4. The final report (SHS-89/CONF.602/7) consisted of the following seven parts: reaffirmation of the rights of peoples, earlier UNESCO involvement in peoples' rights, mandate of the expert group, the controversy of peoples' rights, conclusions, general recommendations and recommendations concerning UNESCO's future activities.

5. As a result of the discussions, the experts arrived at the following conclusions:

(a) The concept of peoples' rights is now established by universally recognized international law. Its existence cannot now validly be controverted;

(b) Some peoples' rights are universally accepted. These include the right to existence, the right to self-determination and other rights;

(c) There is however a continuing and legitimate debate about the precise content of still other rights claimed to be peoples' rights;

(d) The concept is a dynamic one that is in the process of elucidation and clarification. International and regional legal instruments, resolutions of the General Assembly of the United Nations, national constitutions, scholarly writings and other texts contribute to this process;

(e) UNESCO is an appropriate forum for such elucidation and clarification, particularly because of the direct relevance of peoples' rights to cultural identity, educational practices and other established areas of UNESCO's competence.

6. More specifically, in the general recommendations, the participants were of the opinion that in the context of the contemporary changes in the ideological debates which have so profoundly affected the international community - and necessarily UNESCO - in the recent past, UNESCO should extend the reflection on the rights of peoples to new subject areas. Without limiting the generality of this observation, such extension should include:

(a) The implications of peoples' rights, including to internal self-determination, especially democratic forms of government;

(b) The implications of peoples' rights including to a safe global environment for such issues as the so-called greenhouse effect and global warming or in response to disasters of transnational significance, such as occurred at Chernobyl;

(c) The implications of peoples' right to peace.

UNITED NATIONS INTERREGIONAL CRIME AND JUSTICE RESEARCH INSTITUTE

[Original: English]

[24 August 1990]

1. The United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute constitutes the interregional component of a network of United Nations institutes for the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders. The activities of the Institute are formulated and take place against a background awareness of the fact that in many countries crime rates have reached such proportions that they indicate the presence of a serious threat to social peace, stability and development.

2. As noted by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control at its eleventh session, held in Vienna in February of 1990, crime by organized criminal groups has increased to an alarming extent, with a corresponding increase in physical violence and intimidation, while terrorism has claimed tens of thousands of innocent lives and senseless mass killings have taken place in many countries throughout the world. Predatory drug trafficking must also be seen as a threat to social peace, since it ruins the lives of addicted victims and has brought millions of other people into direct contact with unprecedented violence.

3. The objective of this Institute is to contribute, through research, training; field activities and the collection, exchange and dissemination of information, to the formulation and implementation of improved policies in the field of crime prevention and control. In the carrying out of its functions it strives to respond to the needs of the international community, with particular attention being paid to the developing countries, in the understanding of such problems and the development of strategies, policies and instruments to prevent and control them and the threat they bring to social peace.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATON

[Original: English]

[13 September 1990]

1. The Constitution of the World Health Organization, adopted in July 1946, to which 166 member States currently subscribe, declares that:

> The health of all peoples is fundamental to the attainment of peace and security, and is dependent upon the fullest co-operation of individuals and States.
>
> The achievement of any State in the promotion and protection of health is of value to all.

Guided by this principle, for the past 44 years the World Health Organization has striven to protect peace and harmony among mankind through the promotion and protection of people's health.

2. In 1977 the World Health Assembly decided that the main social target of its member States and of the World Health Organization should be the attainment by all the people of the world by the year 2000 of a level of health that will permit them to lead socially and economically productive lives, now popularly known as "Health for all by the year 2000". The international conference held at Alma-Ata, USSR, in 1978 stated that primary health care is the key to attaining this target. The principles underlying primary health care include equity, accessibility to health care by all, emphasis on promotion of health and prevention of disease, community involvement and participation, and decentralization of decision-making, particularly in matters of health. The Global Strategy for the achievement of health for all, adopted by the World Health Assembly in 1981, was endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 36/43.

3. The member States of WHO have "operationalized" these concepts in their national health programmes and the organization has supported their implementation as part of its contribution to social justice, peace and security for all mankind. The most recent monitoring of the Strategy, carried out in 1988, has revealed that while appreciable progress has been made, certain constraints remain which constitute a formidable challenge to the attainment of the goal of health for all. Among these challenges are sustaining commitment at the highest level of political leadership; reducing social inequities within and between countries; and intensifying efforts to strengthen the infrastructure required to achieve health and development goals. The latter is of particular concern in the low-income and least developed countries, and among people who live in pockets of poverty and need in other countries. It is primarily among these countries and peoples that there is growing social unrest due to the economic burdens weighing on the poor, and to disasters, such as famine and drought, as well as the civil strife, conflicts and wars that exist in at least 25 areas, mainly among the developing countries. Under these conditions the health status particularly of the most vulnerable groups, has deteriorated. The Organization has therefore taken steps to intensify its technical co-operation with these countries and peoples in an effort to assist in removing the major obstacles to achieving health for all.

4. The World Health Organization has supported several activities which promote the right of peoples to peace. Three broad areas can be identified. First, the efforts to use health as a bridge to peace, particularly where it has been possible to suspend hostilities to allow for the health care particularly of children and women, to implement the Expanded Programme on Immunization (EPI), and to carry out relief efforts to stave off hunger and starvation. For example, the operating policy for the EPI mandated by resolution WHA30.53 (May 1977) makes it clear that every child in the world should have access to immunization coverage. Hence WHO's Regional office for the Americas has collaborated with UNICEF in the annual immunization programmes in El Salvador which began in 1985 and were made possible as a result of the cessation of fighting for a specified period. WHO has also given technical support to similar operations in Lebanon and the Sudan. The Health Assembly paid special attention to the difficult health situation faced by the

people of Panama as a result of civil strife, and urged all member States to refrain from taking measures which could be detrimental to the health of the population and invited them to intensify co-operation in the health field (resolution WHA41.32, 13 May 1988). Similarly, the Health Assembly welcomed the agreement on the settlement of the situation in Afghanistan (resolution WHA41.33, 13 May 1988) and requested member States and the international community to provide additional resources to satisfy the basic and most urgent health requests of the people of Afghanistan.

5. The second of the most direct contributions WHO has made towards the promotion of peace were the studies conducted under its auspices on the role of physicians and other health workers in the preservation and promotion of peace as the most significant factor for the attainment of health for all. As early as May 1981 the World Health Assembly expressed its great concern at the aggravation of the international situation and the growing danger of thermonuclear conflict. The Health Assembly took note of the concern of physicians and other health workers with this problem which they regarded as the most serious threat to the life and health of all populations, and of their desire to prevent thermonuclear disasters. In resolution WHA34.38 (22 May 1981) the Health Assembly requested the Director-General to create a committee to study the contribution WHO could make to implementation of the United Nations resolutions on strengthening peace, détente, and disarmament, and preventing thermonuclear conflict. In response to that resolution the Director-General set up an international committee of experts in medical sciences and public health, which met in 1982 and 1983, and submitted a report on the effects of nuclear war on health and health services which was presented to the thirty-sixth World Health Assembly in 1983 and later published. 1/ The Health Assembly endorsed the Committee's conclusions in resolution WHA36.28 and recommended that WHO should continue to collect, analyse and regularly publish accounts of activities and further studies of the effects of nuclear war on health and health services, and keep the Health Assembly periodically informed. The Director-General set up a management group to implement that recommendation. Members of the group have participated and continue to participate in many of the numerous studies carried out throughout the world on the risks and dangers of a thermonuclear conflict.

6. The Group presented a second report 2/ to the fortieth World Health Assembly in 1987 which incorporated the results of new studies carried out since the first report was published. This report had brought to bear a wide variety of scientific disciplines and modern analytical techniques on the assessment of the effects of nuclear war, not only on human beings but also on the environment - effects, for example, on climate and agriculture that would profoundly influence human health

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1/ Effects of nuclear war on health and health services. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1984.

2/ Effects of nuclear war on health and health services. Second Edition. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1987.

and welfare. The psychological effects of living under the threat of nuclear war were also examined. The experts concluded that no health service anywhere in the world would be able to deal significantly with the appalling health consequences of nuclear war, especially since the health services themselves would be largely destroyed or incapacitated. In these circumstances the experts emphasized the importance of preventing nuclear conflict. In resolution WHA40.24 (15 May 1987) the Health Assembly decided that the investigation of other health aspects of the effects of nuclear war that were not reflected in the report should be continued, in collaboration with interested United Nations bodies and other international organizations.

7. In 1989 the Management Group carried out a preliminary review of the current situation in the wake of the changing political conditions in the world, and decided to continue to monitor developments in research related to the effects of nuclear war on health and health services. In so doing, members of the Group would collaborate individually, when feasible, with scientific committees established by the United Nations and other organizations studying this subject in order to ensure a continuous exchange of information. The Group recognized that despite the improved political climate, the danger of nuclear war still persists. Underground testing continues, and the strategic effectiveness of nuclear weapons has been increased. Moreover there are areas where the results of research are still not conclusive, such as the influence of radiation during the prenatal period, its genetic consequences and its effects on morbidity in general. The members of the WHO Management Group therefore decided to review the situation at an appropriate time in the future.

8. Third, over the past several years the World Health Assembly, mindful of the principles of the Constitution and in compliance with various resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, has discussed the health conditions of people in several regions of the world where armed conflict or aggression threaten health status. The Health Assembly has taken action to ensure that adequate humanitarian aid is made available to those who are exposed and in need including the large number of refugee populations all over the world. The most recent World Health Assembly, in May 1990, adopted the following resolutions:

(a) WHA43.12 (16 May 1990) on health and medical assistance to Lebanon. In this resolution the Health Assembly appealed to all concerned to halt the fighting which brings death and injury, and dismantling and destruction to health and medical infrastructure. The Health Assembly requested the Director-General to continue and to expand substantially the organization's programmes of health, medical and relief assistance to Lebanon and to allocate for this purpose, as far as possible, funds from the regular budget and other financial resources. The Health Assembly also called upon member States, as well as other agencies, organs and bodies of the United Nations system, to intensify their co-operation with WHO in this field and to provide increased technical and financial support for relief operations and reconstruction in Lebanon.

(b) WHA43.13 (16 May 1990) on health assistance to refugees and displaced persons in Cyprus. In this resolution the Health Assembly considered that the continuing health problems of the refugees and displaced persons in Cyprus call for

further assistance and it requested the Director-General to continue and intensify the health assistance required in addition to any assistance made available within the framework of the efforts of the co-ordinator of United Nations humanitarian assistance in Cyprus.

(c) WHA43.14 (16 May 1990) on the liberation struggle in southern Africa: assistance to the front-line States, Lesotho and Swaziland. In this resolution the Health Assembly expressed the view that the front-line States suffered directly or indirectly from the consequences of military, political and economic destabilization by South Africa; that this hampered their economic and social development; and that they have to accept enormous sacrifices to rehabilitate and develop their health infrastructure which has suffered as a result of this destabilization. Consequently, the Health Assembly resolved that WHO should continue to take appropriate and timely measures to help the front-line States, Lesotho and Swaziland solve the acute health problems of the South African and other refugees and to provide technical co-operation in the health field to countries which have been targets of destabilization. The resolution also called upon the Director-General to intensify humanitarian assistance to the African National Congress and the Pan African Congress of Azania and to make use, were necessary, of both regular budget funds and extrabudgetary resources.

(d) WHA43.15 (16 May 1990) on reconstruction and development of the health sector in Namibia. The Health Assembly, while appreciating the positive role that WHO had played in offering health assistance to Namibia in previous years, and in preparing it for independence, expressed its hearty congratulations to the people of Namibia on attaining independence and welcomed the admission of that country to WHO. The Health Assembly requested the Director-General to provide intensified technical co-operation and the necessary assistance to Namibia, and called upon member States, other United Nations organizations, the donor community, and intergovernmental and non-governmental agencies, to provide moral, material and financial support and co-operation for this endeavour.

(e) WHA43.26 (17 May 1990) on health conditions of the Arab population in the occupied Arab territories, including Palestine. The Health Assembly took note of the information provided by the Director-General on the health conditions of the population in the occupied Arab territories, and expressed appreciation for the report of the Special Committee of Experts set up to study the health conditions of the inhabitants in the occupied Arab territories. It expressed concern at the refusal of the Israeli authorities to allow the Special Committee to fulfil its mission of investigating the health conditions of the population in those territories. The Health Assembly expressed its concern at the deterioration in the health conditions of the Arab population in the occupied Arab territories and deplored the continuous deterioration of the situation in these territories which seriously affects the living conditions of the people, compromises in a lasting fashion the future of Palestinian society and prevents economic and social development of those territories. The Health Assembly requested the Director-General to intensify implementation of the special technical assistance programme which emphasizes primary health care, in co-ordination with all member States and all organizations involved in the health and humanitarian activities in this part of the world. The Director-General was also requested to continue to

monitor and evaluate the health conditions of the Arab people in the occupied Arab territories and to seek funds from extrabudgetary sources to support the special technical assistance programme. In addition, the Health Assembly called upon all member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to contribute to the special assistance programme to improve the health conditions of the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION

[Original: English]

[23 August 1990]

1. The work of WIPO in promoting the protection of intellectual property throughout the world through co-operation among States contributes to international understanding and peace. In accordance with the WIPO programme for 1988-1989, a special exhibition on the theme "Intellectual property and peace" was displayed on the occasion of the United Nations Day, on 24 October 1989, at the United Nations Office at Geneva.

2. The above-mentioned resolution 43/22 will be brought to the attention of the WIPO General Assembly when it next meets in September 1991. 3/

3/ Attached to the reply was document WO/GA/XI/3 issued by WIPO on 25 August 1989, containing the report of the Director-General on the resolutions adopted and decisons taken by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Attention was drawn to paragraphs 34 and 35 of this document.

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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE RIGHT OF PEOPLES TO PEACE

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

CONTENTS

Page

II. REPLIES RECEIVED FROM GOVERNMENTS

Mongolia 2

MONGOLIA

[Original: Russian]

[18 October 1990]

1. Six years have passed since the adoption of the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace and the General Assembly is about to undertake the fourth review of its implementation.

2. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic is pleased to note the broad support shown for the ideas and goals of the Declaration by the great majority of States. The principal aim of this instrument is to establish in a clear and unambiguous way the inalienable right of peoples to live and work in conditions of peace, as well as the obligation of each State to ensure the proper implementation of that right.

3. The Declaration, adopted at a time when the spirit of confrontation still prevailed, was of great importance in giving impetus to United Nations efforts to preserve universal peace and encourage the world public to seek a solution to the most pressing problem of the modern age, the survival of mankind.

4. The Declaration also took into account the increasingly important role played by peoples in the democratization of international relations and in solving the vital problems of war and peace. Mongolia believes that the Declaration on the Rights of Peoples to Peace provides yet another instrument by which the United Nations can give more explicit expression to its support for the actions of peoples aimed at averting war, and that the Declaration has helped broaden the practical link between United Nations efforts to strengthen international security and the struggle of peoples to defend peace and their right to shape their own future in conditions of tranquillity and well-being.

5. In recent months historic positive changes have taken place, reflected in the processes under way to unite Europe and to achieve a peaceful settlement of regional conflicts, in the tangible progress achieved in disarmament and in the enhanced peace-keeping and peace-making role of the United Nations. This shows that the ideas of the Declaration are being put into practice and that increasingly favourable conditions are emerging in which a peaceful future for peoples could be guaranteed.

6. At the same time, the presence of enormous stocks of arms, constantly being upgraded, and also of regional conflicts shows that the spirit and the ideas of the Declaration have lost none of their relevance. For that reason, Mongolia fully supports General Assembly resolution 44/21, which calls upon all States to intensify their practical efforts towards ensuring international peace and security in all its aspects through co-operative means in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

7. Mongolia considers it important that the General Assembly, at its forty-fifth session, should once again reaffirm the lasting importance and validity of the Declaration on the Right of Peoples to Peace and should also ask the Secretary-General to keep the progress achieved in its implementation under periodic review and to report to the General Assembly as necessary.